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U.S. Government Gives \$4 Million More in Emergency Food Aid

Colombo, March 9, 2011: The United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the development agency of the U.S. Government, is pleased to announce a new donation of \$4,200,000 (approximately 462 million Sri Lanka Rupees) of food aid to support the return of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Northern Sri Lanka. Consisting of wheat flour, lentils, and vegetable oil, USAID's second shipment of food aid this year will be distributed by the United Nations World Food Programme and will meet the needs of up to 371,000 returnees.

This donation to support the northern IDPs comes in addition to the flood relief assistance of \$2.9 million (319 million Sri Lanka Rupees) given by the United States Government earlier this year which supported families in areas severely affected by the heavy rains such as Mannar, Trincomalee, Vavuniya, Anuradhapura and Polonnaruwa.

To date, the U.S. has provided nearly \$33 million (3.6 billion rupees) in food aid to Sri Lankans during 2010 and the first months of 2011.